

Appln. No. 10/590,905
Amd. dated December 14, 2009
Reply to Office Action of October 13, 2009

REMARKS

The examiner states that the application contains twenty eight groups of inventions (I-XXVIII) which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 and requires election of a single group to which the claims must be restricted.

Applicant elects without traverse Group II, comprising claims 1 (in part), 3, 10-14 and 17 (each in part), drawn to a peptide which has more than 80% amino acid homology to SEQ ID NO:5. This amended claim language is supported in the present specification at paragraph [0020] and allows for no more than two amino acid modifications.

It is understood that, upon product claims being subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims (e.g., Group XXVIII) that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder.

Favorable consideration and early allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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